

THE EXECUTION OF

William Lord Ruffel,

Who on the 21st of this Instant *July* was Beheaded in *Lincolns-Inn-Fields*, for Conspiring the Death of the King, to Leavy War, and Raife a Rebellion, together with his Behaviour and Speeches, &c.

Entred according to ORDER.

William Lord Ruffel having been Impeached of High-Treason, for Conspiring the Death of the King, to Leavy War, and a miserable Slaughter to make amongst the Subjects of our Sovereign Lord the King, he was thereupon Apprehended and Committed Prisoner to the *Tower*, where he continued till the 13th of *July*, at what time he was brought to the *Old-Bale*, where an Indictmant of High-Treason being found against him, and he upon his Arraignment Pleading *Not Guilty*, was brought upon his Tryal, and after he had made his challenges of the *Jury*, he was put upon his Tryal: The Exception for that, that the *Jury* were not Freeholders, being over-ruled by the Court, after the Arguments of Council on both sides had been heard and considered, so that the Evidence being opened by Mr. *North*, Mr. Attorney General, Mr. Serjeant *Jefferies*, &c. each of them laying open the heinous Ingratitude of the Conspiracy against the Life of so good a Prince, and not only against him, but to the subversion of the Government, and destruction of His Majesties good Subjects, requiring them to consider of what fatal consequence the Conspiracy would have been had it taken effect: To prove which, Collonel *Rumsey* was called and Sworn, who gave Evidence, That the Lord Ruffel had been at a Consult in the House of one Mr. *Shepherd* a Merchant, in the Parish of *St. Miles Basleshawe*, and that he was sent thither by the Earl of *Shaftsbury*, to inquire what the Lords, *viz.* the Duke of *Monmouth*, the Lord *Grey*, the Lord Ruffel and others there convened, intended as to the general Insurrection? who told him, That the Earl must be contented, for as much as Mr. *Trenchard* of *Summeret-shire* had deceived them, in not having in readines the 1000 Foot and 400 Horse he had promised to raife, having sent Letters to certify them, that the people of the Country could not be brought to action at so short a warning as was given; for that they must provide for their Families ere they entred upon so dangerous a design as a general Insurrection; and that when this Messuage was brought, and the Answer returned, the Lord this day Executed seemed no ways to

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contradict it, nor dissenting from it, and that the Insurrection was to have been on the 19th of *November*, had not the disappointment happened, which unkinged the whole fabrick of the design as to that time. It was likewise Sworn against him, that by one Mr. *Sheepherd* a Merchant, that Mr. *Fergafson* came to his House to bespeak a Room in the Name of the Duke of *Monmouth* and divers other Lords, of which number, when they came, and that by Night in the Secretest wise, the Lord *Russel* was one, and that a Declaration in his hearing was read to palliate the horrid action under pretence of Grievances, against which the said Lord objected nothing, but appeared consenting to it. The Lord *Howard* of *Esrick* opened the Plot in all its circumstances, declaring the Lord *Russel* had been in it from the original, to the best of his knowledge; but that *Shaftsbury* had been the greatest contriver and carryer of it on, and that he himself had been at two Consults, viz at Mr. *Sidnes* and at Mr. *Hanbdens* the younger, when the Lord *Russel* was present; and where without controul, divers matters relating to the Conspiracy were agreed upon, none then in the Assembly dissenting; and that when they departed they went two and two together, giving divers other particulars in Evidence.

Upon this Evidence the Lord *Russel*, notwithstanding some weak defences made, was found Guilty of High-Treason, and the next day I brought to the Barr, where he received Sentence as followeth, viz. *To return to the place from whence he came, from thence to be drawn upon a Hurdle to the place of Execution, there to be Hanged by the Neck, and then cut down alive, his Privy-Members to be cut off, Bowels to be taken out and burnt before his Face, his Head to be severed from his Body, and his Body to be devided into four Quarters, and to be disposed of at the pleasure of the King.* This Sentence passed, notwithstanding divers objections made, that what was sworn against him would not amount to more than Misprision. He was this day conveyed by a strong Guard to *Lincolns-Inn-Field*, where a Scaffold was prepared for his Execution, he having, during the intervene, continued very penitent, and not appeared over-free in Discourse to such as came to visit him. Being mounted the Scaffold, he expressed much sorrow for his sins, often extending his hands towards Heaven, desiring forgiveness both of God and Men, requiring the Prayers of all good Christians, with divers other expressions: After which, laying down his Head, he had it at two blows stricken off by the Executioner.

F I N I S.

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